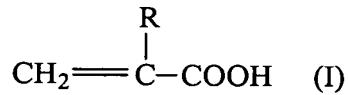


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

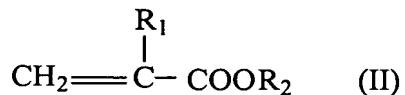
1. (Currently Amended): An emulsion comprising an oily phase dispersed in an aqueous phase, characterized in that the globules of the oily phase have an average size of less than 20 microns and are monodispersed, in that the oily phase constitutes at least 15% by weight relative to the total weight of the emulsion, in that the fatty substances in the oily phase consist essentially of liquid oils and in that the aqueous phase contains at least one copolymer consisting of a major fraction of monoolefinically unsaturated C₃-C₆ carboxylic acid monomer or its anhydride and a minor fraction of acrylic acid fatty-chain ester monomer, and in that it is free of surfactant.

2. (Previously Amended): The emulsion according to Claim 1, characterized in that the amount of carboxylic acid monomer or of its anhydride in the copolymer ranges from 80 to 98% by weight and in that the amount of ester monomer ranges from 20 to 2% by weight, the percentages by weight being expressed relative to the total weight of the two monomers.

3. (Previously Amended): The emulsion according to Claim 1, characterized in that the carboxylic acid monomer is a compound of formula (I):



in which R denotes hydrogen, a halogen, a hydroxyl group, a lactone group, a lactam group, a cyanogen group, a monovalent alkyl group, an aryl group, an alkylaryl group, an aralkyl group or a cycloaliphatic group, and in that the ester monomer is a compound of formula (II):



in which R₁ is chosen from the group formed from hydrogen, a methyl radical and an ethyl radical, and R₂ is a C₈-C₃₀ alkyl group.

4. (Previously Amended): The emulsion according to Claim 3, characterized in that the carboxylic acid monomer is chosen from acrylic acid, methacrylic acid and mixtures thereof, and in that the ester monomer is chosen from monomers of formula (II) in which R₁ is hydrogen or a methyl radical and R₂ is a C₁₀-C₂₂ alkyl group.

5. (Previously Amended): The emulsion according to Claim 1, characterized in that the copolymer is present in an amount ranging from 0.1 to 4% by weight relative to the total weight of the emulsion.

6. (Previously Amended): The emulsion according to Claim 1, characterized in that the average size of the globules in the oily phase ranges from 0.5 to 15 microns.

7. (Previously Amended): The emulsion according to Claim 1, characterized in that the oily phase of the emulsion represents from 15 to 45% by weight relative to the total weight of the emulsion.

8. (Previously Amended): The emulsion according to Claim 1, characterized in that it constitutes a cosmetic and/or dermatological composition.

9. (Previously Amended): The emulsion according to Claim 1, characterized in that it contains at least one additive chosen from hydrophilic active agents, lipophilic active agents,

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preserving agents, antioxidants, fragrances, solvents, fillers, sunscreens, pigments, dyestuffs, basic agents, acidic agents, lipid vesicles and gelling agents.

10. (Previously Amended): A method for treating, protecting, caring for and/or cleansing the skin, mucous membranes and/or the hair, and/or for making up the skin and/or mucous membranes, comprising applying the emulsion of Claim 1 to the skin.

11. (Canceled).

12. (Withdrawn): A process for manufacturing the emulsion as defined in Claim 1, which comprises introducing, under pressure, the oily phase into the aqueous phase containing the copolymer, through a hydrophilic porous glass membrane with an average pore size ranging from 0.1 to 5 μm , at a pressure greater than the critical pressure.

13. (Withdrawn): The process according to Claim 12, wherein the pressure ranges from 30 to 350 kPa.

14. (Canceled).

15. (Previously Added): The emulsion of Claim 1, wherein the copolymer has a viscosity of less than 5 Pa·s.

16. (Previously Added): The emulsion of Claim 1, wherein the copolymer has a viscosity of less than 3 Pa·s.

17. (Previously Added): The emulsion of Claim 1, wherein the copolymer is an acrylate/C₁₀-C₃₀-alkylacrylate copolymer.

18. (Previously Added): The emulsion of Claim 1, wherein the copolymer is present in an amount ranging from 0.1 to 2% by weight relative to the total weight of the emulsion.

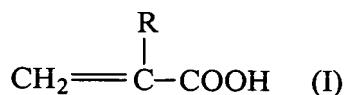
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19. (Previously Added): The emulsion of Claim 1, wherein the oily phase of the emulsion represents from 20 to 30% by weight relative to the total weight of the emulsion.

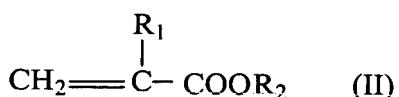
20. (Currently Amended): An emulsion comprising an oily phase dispersed in an aqueous phase, characterized in that the globules of the oily phase have an average size of less than 20 microns and are monodispersed, in that the oily phase constitutes at least 15% by weight relative to the total weight of the emulsion, in that the fatty substances in the oily phase consist essentially of liquid oils and in that the aqueous phase contains at least one copolymer consisting of a major fraction of monoolefinically unsaturated C₃-C₆ carboxylic acid monomer or its anhydride and a minor fraction of acrylic acid fatty-chain ester monomer.

21. (Previously Added): The emulsion according to Claim 20, characterized in that the amount of carboxylic acid monomer or of its anhydride in the copolymer ranges from 80 to 98% by weight and in that the amount of ester monomer ranges from 20 to 2% by weight, the percentages by weight being expressed relative to the total weight of the two monomers.

22. (Previously Added): The emulsion according to Claim 20, characterized in that the carboxylic acid monomer is a compound of formula (I):



in which R denotes hydrogen, a halogen, a hydroxyl group, a lactone group, a lactam group, a cyanogen group, a monovalent alkyl group, an aryl group, an alkylaryl group, an aralkyl group or a cycloaliphatic group, and in that the ester monomer is a compound of formula (II):



in which R₁ is chosen from the group formed from hydrogen, a methyl radical and an ethyl radical, and R₂ is a C₈-C₃₀ alkyl group.

23. (Previously Added): The emulsion according to Claim 22, characterized in that the carboxylic acid monomer is chosen from acrylic acid, methacrylic acid and mixtures thereof, and in that the ester monomer is chosen from monomers of formula (II) in which R₁ is hydrogen or a methyl radical and R₂ is a C₁₀-C₂₂ alkyl group.

24. (Previously Added): The emulsion according to Claim 20, characterized in that the copolymer is present in an amount ranging from 0.1 to 4% by weight relative to the total weight of the emulsion.

25. (Previously Added): The emulsion according to Claim 20, characterized in that the average size of the globules in the oily phase ranges from 0.5 to 15 microns.

26. (Previously Added): The emulsion according to Claim 20, characterized in that the oily phase of the emulsion represents from 15 to 45% by weight relative to the total weight of the emulsion.

27. (Previously Added): The emulsion according to Claim 20, characterized in that it constitutes a cosmetic and/or dermatological composition.

28. (Previously Added): The emulsion according to Claim 20, characterized in that it contains at least one additive chosen from hydrophilic active agents, lipophilic active agents, preserving agents, antioxidants, fragrances, solvents, fillers, sunscreens, pigments, dyestuffs, basic agents, acidic agents, lipid vesicles and gelling agents.

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29. (Previously Added): A method for treating, protecting, caring for and/or cleansing the skin, mucous membranes and/or the hair, and/or for making up the skin and/or mucous membranes, comprising applying the emulsion of Claim 20 to the skin.

30. (Withdrawn): A process for manufacturing the emulsion as defined in Claim 20, which comprises introducing, under pressure, the oily phase into the aqueous phase containing the copolymer, through a hydrophilic porous glass membrane with an average pore size ranging from 0.1 to 5 μm , at a pressure greater than the critical pressure.

31. (Withdrawn): The process according to Claim 30, wherein the pressure ranges from 30 to 350 kPa.

32. (Withdrawn): The process according to Claim 30, wherein the average pore size ranges from 0.3 to 3 μm .

33. (Canceled).

34. (Previously Added): The emulsion of Claim 20, wherein the copolymer has a viscosity of less than 5 Pa·s.

35. (Previously Added): The emulsion of Claim 20, wherein the copolymer has a viscosity of less than 3 Pa·s.

36. (Previously Added): The emulsion of Claim 20, wherein the copolymer is an acrylate/C₁₀-C₃₀-alkylacrylate copolymer.

37. (Previously Added): The emulsion of Claim 20, wherein the copolymer is present in an amount ranging from 0.1 to 2% by weight relative to the total weight of the emulsion.

38. (Previously Added): The emulsion of Claim 20, wherein the oily phase of the emulsion represents from 20 to 30% by weight relative to the total weight of the emulsion.

39. (Currently Amended): The emulsion according to Claim 1, characterized in that the oily phase consists essentially of volatile liquid oil.

40. (Currently Amended): The emulsion according to Claim 1, characterized in that the oily phase consists essentially of liquid silicone oil.

41. (Currently Amended): The emulsion according to Claim 1, characterized in that the oily phase consists essentially of volatile liquid silicone oil.

42. (Previously Added): A cosmetic or dermatological composition comprising the emulsion according to Claim 1, characterized in that the composition is in the form of a cream or a milk.

43. (Currently Amended): The emulsion according to Claim 20, characterized in that the oily phase consists essentially of volatile liquid oil.

44. (Currently Amended): The emulsion according to Claim 20, characterized in that the oily phase consists essentially of liquid silicone oil.

45. (Currently Amended): The emulsion according to Claim 20, characterized in that the oily phase consists essentially of volatile liquid silicone oil.

46. (Previously Added): A cosmetic or dermatological composition comprising the emulsion according to Claim 20, characterized in that the composition is in the form of a cream or a milk.